

"Prince John" and the Court.

As a wit John Van Buren was unrivaled at the bar or on the stump. Shortly after he commenced practicing in New York he was engaged in a case before the general term of the Supreme Court. Unfortunately his side was deplorably lacking in legal merit but, nothing daunted, he commenced arguing his point in a very intelligent manner until interrupted by the presiding Judge, who cut him short by saying: "Mr. Van Buren, we cannot see that there is anything in your first point." "Very well, then," answered Prince John, "I will go on with my second." He was interrupted again by the Judge, who even failed to see as much in the second point as he had in the first, and Van Buren commenced with his third. He came to grief with that as well as with the rest of his points, the Judge stopping him in the middle of each by merely stating there was nothing in it. At the close of the argument Judge Edmonds consulted his associates and then, turning to the plucky lawyer, said: "Mr. Van Buren, after consultation, we all agree that we cannot perceive that there is anything in any of your points." Van Buren folded his arms, looked the Judge fairly in the eyes, and replied: "I never could see anything in any of them; but, as your Honors are so much better lawyers than I am, I did not know but you might."—San Francisco Wave.

A Considerate Woman.

It was not necessary for the men in line at the bank to turn their heads in order to be informed that a good looking young woman was approaching. The winsomely bland smile which flitted across the countenance of the clerk at the window conveyed the information swiftly and conclusively.

"Excuse me," she said, as she took her place at the head of the procession—a place which strong and brave men could have reached only by wading through gore—"I would like to ask you a question."

"Are times really hard?" "There isn't any use of trying to conceal it. In a good many branches of industry the depression is very serious."

"I'm very much obliged to you," she responded, and turned to go away.

"If you were worrying about any particular investment I might be able to give you some advice."

"No. It wasn't about anything especial. I just wanted to satisfy myself that times are hard. I don't really wish to annoy my husband with my expenses, and I thought the best thing to do was to come and find out for certain whether times are hard or whether it is merely the same story that he has been telling me every year when the fall styles come in."—Washington Star.

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